replaced by the replacement string **240** shown in the space bar **227**, and the display of the space bar **227** is then returned to its normal or default status (e.g., blank, or with the word "space" displaced in the space bar (see FIG. **4**H)). It is noted that the space bar **227** corresponds to a delimiter (i.e., a space). In some of these embodiments, only the highest ranked suggested replacement is presented to the user, and thus any other corrections must be made manually by the user. If the user performs a second gesture with respect to the touch screen display, such as tapping any key of the keyboard other than the space bar **227**, the current character string **222** in retained.

[0051] The embodiments of the invention, as described above, provides an intuitive way to integrate explicit word selection (via suggested word replacements in the second area), implicit word selection (e.g., via the space bar or other delimiter keys), and explicit non-selection of suggested word replacements (via keeping the current word, e.g., for words with unusual spellings).

[0052] In some embodiments, the device **200** may allow the user to review strings replaced by user-selected suggested replacements. Attention is now directed to FIGS. **5**A-**5**B, which illustrate a user interface for reviewing the originally entered strings that were replaced by suggested replacements. A user may perform a gesture over a word **229** in the entered text **218**. For example, the user may tap the word **229** on the touch screen with a finger **212**, as indicated by the contact area **228** in the display tray **214**. If the word **229** (FIG. **5**A) was a replacement for some originally entered text, the originally entered text **230** may be displayed (FIG. **5**B). Alternately, the originally entered text may be displayed if the user's finger hovers over the word **229** for at least a threshold period of time (e.g., 0.5 seconds, 1.0 second, or a value between 0.35 and 1.25 seconds). In some embodiments, the originally entered text **230** is displayed in place of the word **229** for a predetermined amount of time, such as 2 seconds. After the time has elapsed, the word **229** is displayed back in its place unless an undo gesture (e.g., a tap on the original text) is performed, in which case the originally entered text **230** is durably restored. In some other embodiments, the originally entered text **230** is displayed in a balloon graphic or the like extending from the word **229**.

[0053] The foregoing description, for purpose of explanation, has been described with reference to specific embodiments. However, the illustrative discussions above are not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the invention to the precise forms disclosed. Many modifications and variations are possible in view of the above teachings. The embodiments were chosen and described in order to best explain the principles of the invention and its practical applications, to thereby enable others skilled in the art to best utilize the invention and various embodiments with various modifications as are suited to the particular use contemplated.

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-implemented method, comprising: at a portable electronic device,

in a first area of the touch screen display, displaying a current character string being input by a user with the keyboard;

in a space bar key on the keyboard, displaying a suggested replacement character string;

replacing the current character string in the first area with the suggested replacement character string if the user performs a predefined gesture with respect to the space bar key on the keyboard; and

keeping the current character string in the first area if the user performs a second predefined gesture with respect to the touch screen display.

2. A graphical user interface on a portable electronic device with a keyboard and a touch screen display, comprising:

a first area of the touch screen display that displays a current character string being input by a user with the keyboard; and

a second area of the touch screen display that displays the keyboard, the keyboard including a space bar key;

wherein;

a suggested replacement character string is displayed in the space bar key of the keyboard;

the current character string in the first area is replaced with the suggested replacement character string if the user performs a predefined gesture with respect to the space bar key on the keyboard; and

the current character string in the first area is kept if the user performs a second predefined gesture with respect to the touch screen display.

3. A portable electronic device, comprising:

a touch screen display;

one or more processors;

memory; and

a program, wherein the program is stored in the memory and configured to be executed by the one or more processors, the program including:

instructions for displaying, in a first area of the touch screen display, a current character string being input by a user with the keyboard;

instructions for displaying, in a second area of the touch screen display, the keyboard, the keyboard including a space bar key;

instructions for displaying a suggested replacement character string in the space bar key of the keyboard;

instructions for replacing the current character string in the first area with the suggested replacement character string if the user performs a predefined gesture with respect to the space bar key on the keyboard; and

instructions for keeping the current character string in the first area if the user performs a second predefined gesture with respect to the touch screen display.

4. A computer-program product, comprising:

a computer readable storage medium and a computer program mechanism embedded therein, the computer program mechanism comprising instructions, which when executed by a portable electronic device with a touch screen display, cause the device to:

in a first area of the touch screen display, display a current character string being input by a user with the keyboard;

in a second area of the touch screen display, display the keyboard, the keyboard including a space bar key;

display a suggested replacement character string in the space bar key of the keyboard;

replace the current character string in the first area with the suggested replacement character string if the user performs a predefined gesture with respect to the space bar key on the keyboard; and

keep the current character string in the first area if the user performs a second predefined gesture with respect to the touch screen display.

5. A portable electronic device with a touch screen display, comprising: